paintings and graphics by Russell T. Gordon

statement by Russell T. Gordon

My sources are the every day common place object... to which I try to give a new reality.... Juxtaposition... the impossible in a probable situation... taking two and sometimes opposing realities to make an even greater one more interesting. Reality is, for me, to create a probability with improbable ingredients. The one necessary ingredient for my efforts is humor... giving humanistic qualities to the non-human, or showing absurdities via the absurd... every attempt is an attempt to show the fun I am having! My "formalism" is about organizing space and color and technique to such a state that even the doubter of the reality created finds it difficult to deny.... The idea is important to me. I think of my paintings as visual representations of ideas. I would hope that these ideas would first hit you, not allow you to move on, and then engage you... to take you in... to admit you into a new reality. They are an attempt to make these unreal realities accessible.

December, 1975

Tulip Table
60'' x 84''
acrylic on canvas

Colorful Ideas
60'' x 84''
acrylic on canvas

Sunnyside Set-Up
60'' x 84''
acrylic on canvas

Unidentified Fried Object
40'' x 30''
acrylic on canvas

Ideas are More Fun in the Bath
60'' x 84''
acrylic on canvas

How to Give Life to Your Ideas
40'' x 40''
acrylic on canvas

Which Came First?
18'' x 20''
mixed media drawing

Some Ideas Waiting to Happen
23'' x 22''
mixed media drawing

Some Ideas on the Way to Happen
23'' x 22''
mixed media drawing

Classical Profile With an Idea
21'' x 21''
mixed media drawing

The Dreamer
18'' x 16''
mixed media drawing

Monolith Series
37'' x 25''
mixed media drawing

Classical Profile
21'' x 23''
mixed media drawing

Fried Egg Object
29'' x 24''
mixed media drawing

Still Life W/ an Idea
Series Red 1975
18' x 18''
mixed media drawing

Still Life W/ an Idea
Series Blue 1975
18'' x 18''
mixed media drawing

Every Now and Then I Have an Idea
16'' x 23''
mixed media drawing

Ideas are More Fun in the Bath
27'' x 26''
mixed media drawing

There's One at the End
of Every Rainbow
22' x 30''
mixed media drawing

February 23 through March 11, 1976. Memorial Union Gallery, Arizona State University, Tempe.
Exhibit organized by the Memorial Union Art Committee, and toured by the Arizona Commission on the Arts and Humanities.